

**What is claimed is:**

1       1.     A computer-readable medium comprising:  
2            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for  
3     sensitive information;

4            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to obtain a  
5     result of the search; and

6            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a  
7     score to the obtained result, the score be assigned in accordance with a predefined  
8     criterion.

1       2.     The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising computer-  
2     readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for items of  
3     information associated with an individual.

1       3.     The computer-readable medium of claim 2, further comprising computer-  
2     readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign an individual score for  
3     each of the items of information.

1       4.     The computer-readable medium of claim 3, further comprising computer-  
2     readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a combinatorial score  
3     to the sensitive information, the combinatorial score being a function of the score for at  
4     least two of the items of information.

1       5.     The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for a  
3     first item of information; and  
4            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for a  
5     second item of information.

1       6.     The computer-readable medium of claim 5, further comprising:  
2            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a  
3     first individual score to the first item of information; and  
4            computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a  
5     second individual score to the second item of information.

1       7.     The computer-readable medium of claim 6, further comprising computer-  
2     readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a third score to the  
3     sensitive information, the third score being a function of the first score and the second  
4     score.

1       8.     A method comprising the steps of:  
2            searching for sensitive information;  
3            obtaining a result of the search; and  
4            assigning a score to the obtained result, the score being assigned in accordance  
5     with a predefined criterion.

1           9.       The method of claim 8, wherein the step of searching for sensitive  
2 information comprises the step of searching for items of information associated with an  
3 individual.

1           10.      The method of claim 9, wherein the step of assigning a score comprises the  
2 step of assigning an individual score for each of the items of information.

1           11.      The method of claim 10, wherein the step of assigning a score further  
2 comprises the step of assigning a combinatorial score to the personal information, the  
3 combinatorial score being a function of the score for at least two of the items of  
4 information.

1           12.      The method of claim 8, wherein the step of searching for sensitive  
2 information comprises the steps of:  
3            searching for a first item of information; and  
4            searching for a second item of information.

1           13.      The method of claim 12, wherein the step of assigning a score comprises  
2 the steps of:  
3            assigning a first score to the first item of information; and  
4            assigning a second score to the second item of information.

1           14.      The method of claim 13, wherein the step of assigning a score comprises  
2 the step of assigning a third score to the personal information, the third score being a  
3 function of the first score and the second score.

1       15.    A system comprising:  
2       means for searching for sensitive information;  
3       means for obtaining a result of the search; and  
4       means for assigning a score to the obtained result, the score being assigned in  
5       accordance with a predefined criterion.

1       16.    The system of claim 15, further comprising means for searching for items  
2       of information associated with an individual.

1       17.    The system of claim 16, further comprising means for assigning an  
2       individual score for each of the items of information.

1       18.    The system of claim 17, further comprising means for assigning a  
2       combinatorial score to the personal information, the combinatorial score being a function  
3       of the score for at least two of the items of information.

1       19.    The system of claim 15, further comprising:  
2       means for searching for a first item of information; and  
3       means for searching for a second item of information.

- 1        20.      The system of claim 19, further comprising:
  - 2            means for assigning a first score to the first item of information;
  - 3            means for assigning a second score to the second item of information; and
  - 4            means for assigning a third score to the sensitive information, the third score being
  - 5            a function of the first score and the second score.